

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 02699 150508Z

14-11  
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 /070 W  
----- 049565

P R 150429Z FEB 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 820  
INFO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
USSAG NAKHON PHANOM  
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI  
AMCONSUL UDORN

UNCLAS BANGKOK 2699

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TH  
SUBJ: SENI PRAMOT INTERVIEW

REF : FBIS BANGKOK 150315Z AND 2 FOLLOWING 15 FEB 75

1. SUTHICHAIR YUN, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER "THE NATION", PRINTED AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH SENI PRAMOT FEBRUARY 15 (REFERENCE). SENI DENIED THAT HE WOULD TRY TO GET A BIGGER PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY BY DISSOLVING PARLIAMENT AND HOLDING NEW ELECTIONS, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THAT TIME COULD COME IN HIS SECOND OR THIRD YEAR IN OFFICE.

2. SENI STRESSED HIS PRINCIPLE THAT GOVERNMENTS EXIST TO SERVE THE PEOPLE, AND THAT IN A DEMOCRACY THE LEADER "SERVES ONLY SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE TRUST HIM." HE SAID THAT WHEN HE LOSES THE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE, HE WILL GO BACK TO WRITING PIANO PIECES.

3. ASKED ABOUT THE AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE, SENI EMPHASIZED A CONTINUING POLICY OF GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL. WHEN SUTHICHAIR MENTIONED THAT HANOI HAD RAISED THE  
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AMERICAN TROOP PRESENCE AS AN OBSTACLE TO GOOD RELATIONS

BETWEEN THAILAND AND NORTH VIETNAM, SENI POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE 50,000 NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN LAOS. I REALLY WONDER WHY THE AMERICANS AND THE NORTH VIETNAMESE CAN'T TAKE IT UP BETWEEN THEMSELVES. IT'S A POINT OF THEIR COMMON CONCERN. WHY CAN'T HANOI TELL THE AMERICANS TO WITHDRAW FROM THAILAND AND WHY CAN'T THE AMERICANS TELL HANOI TO DO THE SAME IN LAOS?"

4. ASKED ABOUT HOW SOON THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE FORMED, SENI POINTED OUT THAT ITALY HASN'T SUCCEEDED IN THAT TASK IN OVER A YEAR. "AND ISRAEL TOOK OVER A MONTH. THE ISRAELIS ARE VERY ABLE AND VERY EFFICIENT PEOPLE BUT IT STILL TOOK THEM OVER A MONTH. AND YOU EXPECT A SMALL CHAP LIKE ME TO DO IT IN A WEEK? THIS IS A COALITION - PLEASE UNDERSTAND."  
KINTNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, TH, (SENI PRAMOT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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